

EAST BAY LABOR JOURNAL

THE ONLY OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF ORGANIZED LABOR IN ALAMEDA COUNTY

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Peril to workmen's comp GE settlement up for vote

BTC, state labor hit referee slash

The Alameda County Building Trades Council this week strongly protested Governor Reagan's plan to cut back the state workmen's compensation hearing staff, further complicating industrially injured working people's problems in getting benefits.

Reagan was understood to have modified his original proposal to cut a total of 24 referee posts to a decision not to fill four vacancies or replace four retiring referees, after protests by Bar Association and labor spokesmen.

Any slash will only increase already too long delays in getting industrial accident benefits, BTC President Paul Jones told the council. Dean Wright, attorney for Laborers 304, of which Jones is secretary, has told him that it now takes up to six months to gain benefits, he said.

State Building Trades Council President James S. Lee wrote all affiliates warning that the staff reduction "will seriously lead to a diminution of benefits." The cutback will encourage insurance companies to drag their feet and cause "many injured workers to accept less rather than be faced by the delays . . ." Lee wrote.

The BTC wrote Reagan and state legislators asking that the

MORE on page 5

from the EDITOR'S CHAIR

Forward against pollution

A friend, riding behind a bus the other day, wondered if our governor's big new anti-pollution campaign made any mention of the exhaust smoke which was pouring into his face until he rolled up the car window.

When I say new I mean brand new election year anti-pollution campaign, and it reads very well and covers many bases which our governor has not made much of before.

★ ★ ★

MY PASSENGER'S comment spurred a bit of research which led via the Public Utilities Commission to the Department of Motor Vehicles to the Highway Patrol in Oakland, back to the patrol's motor carrier safety operations unit in San Francisco,

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Award for second unionist due at Man of Year dinner

Another unionist will receive an award for outstanding service next Friday, February 13, when Lamar Childers is honored as Alameda County labor's first Man of the Year.

The second award, to a retired union member who has remained active, will not be disclosed—to the recipient or the public—until the Man of the Year dinner.

Meanwhile, the Central Labor Council and Building Trades Council's again urged unions which have not yet reserved blocks of tickets to the affair, to report this week on how many tickets they will take.

Arrangements must be made early next week according to the projected size of the crowd.

Unions were urged to send their officers and executive board members as a minimum to the \$25 a plate affair at Goodman's Hall, Jack London Square.

Proceeds will go to Alameda County COPE's war chest for the 1970 elections at which a governor, U.S. Senator, Congressmen and state legislators will be named.

Childers, secretary-treasurer of the Building Trades Council, was chosen as Alameda County's outstanding labor figure of 1969. Executive boards of both councils named him for his long service, cooperation with the total labor movement and contribution to lessening community tensions through minority employment aid.

Hospital regulation sought as answer to cost increases

The California Council for Health Plan Alternatives voted last week to seek legislation placing hospitals and other health facilities under state regulation similar to that of public utilities.

The CCHPA board of delegates took action in response to the massive, continuous rise in health service costs, notably the Kaiser Health Plan's newest 7.5 per cent rate boost which brings its total increases to 35.7 per cent in three years.

It urged consumer representatives on a proposed health industry regulatory body.

"The era of self-regulation and irresponsibility of the health industry must be brought to a close," CCHPA telegraphed governor Reagan and legislative leaders.

"We can no longer tolerate steadily rising costs that stand between the public and the health services they need."

Einar O. Mohn, CCHPA chairman and director of the Western Conference of Teamsters, told a press conference that legislation would be drafted after conferences with the California Labor Federation and consumer organizations and introduced in this session of the legislature.

Council delegates, who represent the nearly 2,000,000 California unionists under negotiated health plans, voted unanimously to seek regulation of health facilities by a revamped State Health Planning Council and six regional councils.

Delegates also urged:

- National health insurance to protect all Americans and end "present disorder and inefficiencies."

- Revise state laws which interfere with setting standards for group health contracts.

Mohn said \$750,000,000 a year is paid in negotiated health plans in California but covers only 65 per cent of family health costs and workers must make up the other 35 per cent out of their own pockets.

In a legislative policy statement calling for state regulation

MORE on page 5

Political action guards wage gains, East Bay labor is told

As General Electric strikers were voting on a settlement, more than 250 Alameda County unionists this week celebrated the apparent victory and were reminded of these lessons from the more than three-month strike:

1. Unparalleled labor unity brought a vastly improved offer from GE—a corporation with more economic power than some nations.

2. To complement the economic gain over GE's "take it or leave it" stance, labor must work in politics for social gains and to prevent government from nullifying what the strike won.

3. The ultimate victory—through political action—will be an end to poverty through a full employment economy—something to which state and national administrations give no service.

These points were made by California Labor Federation Administrative Assistant John F. Henning, former assistant secretary of labor and ambassador to New Zealand, Monday night at a strike support meeting turned into a victory rally by the Alameda County Central Labor Council.

Strikers from East Bay GE plants warned that despite the apparent settlement and the more than \$2,000,000 raised by unions—\$100,413 from Alameda County—it will be two weeks before GE workers get a paycheck. Meanwhile, they urged, strike support contributions are essential.

A total of 150,000 members of 14 unions struck October 14 after GE gave them its "final" offer of 20 cents more for most workers, no commitment on second and third year raises, no protection against arbitrary firing and pay cuts and no cost of living protection.

After the AFLCIO launched a national GE boycott and sought \$1 a member from unionists for strike support, GE boosted its offer to 3 per cent on wages in each of the second two years of an agreement and a limited cost of living clause.

That was rejected, and last week after days of conferences under federal Conciliation Service auspices, GE came up with the offer on which strikers were voting this week.

The total package was 98 cents per hour, with an average 7½ per cent on wages annually and an average 9 per cent on pay and fringe improvements together.

National negotiators for the AFLCIO International Union of Electrical Workers and unaffili-

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JOHN F. HENNING

Golden Gate Fields to open as pact ends racing strike

The five week strike at Santa Anita and Bay Meadows racetracks ended this week with unions accepting a \$7 a day package increase for contracts running to April 9, 1972.

The settlement guaranteed the opening on schedule February 24th of Golden Gate Fields at Albany, thus erasing the call by the Alameda County Central Labor Council for a negotiations meeting with a committee of involved unions last Tuesday.

Labor Council strike sanction against Golden Gate Fields to Parimutuel Employees 280, Service Employees 399 and Theatrical Janitors 9 had been placed in the hands of the committee.

The Albany track had previously held to the Pacific Racing Association's \$2 a day wage-fringe offer, which caused the Bay Meadows-Santa Anita strike.

The settlement provides for increases of \$3 a day the first year retroactive to last summer, \$2 the

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OFFICIAL NOTICES

Correspondents columns will be found on pages 4 and 5 of this edition of the Labor Journal. Unions will find notices of important meetings called by their officers on page 6.

HOW TO BUY

Looks like a rough year for debtors

By **SIDNEY MARGOLIUS**
Consumer Expert for
Labor Journal

This looks like a rough year for working families with large installment debts. After two years of slackening off, consumer bankruptcies are on the increase again. This is to be expected in a year when installment buying has continued to increase despite increased finance charges and higher basic living costs, making repayments more difficult.

We previously have warned you about these three legal loopholes that often trap debt-loaded families into bankruptcy:

- **The "holder in due course" doctrine** in the laws of most states permits a finance company to take over your installment contract from the dealer, but absolves the finance company from any responsibility for making good on the purchase if anything goes wrong. Say you buy a used car and the dealer guarantees it for 30 days. But it conks out. Meanwhile the dealer turns over your installment note to a finance company. He has his money and can refuse to do anything about the car. But in most states you still have to pay the finance company.

Some of the most serious incidents have occurred in home improvements.

Paul J. Krebs, Director of the New Jersey Office of Consumer Protection, reports that in that state, there were 29 complaints against just one home-improvement company involving defective work, non-completion and violation of written guarantees. The company went out of business, but the homeowners still had to pay the finance companies an average of \$1,500 plus interest for shoddy and sometimes incomplete jobs.

A firm which sold sides of beef

Deficiency judgment ban exempts autos

Deficiency judgments, to which Sidney Margolius refers in his column this week, are outlawed in California on all installment purchases except automobile sales.

Formerly sellers could repossess goods on which buyers were unable to make payments, sell them and sue for the unmet balance of the note.

Under the law, passed during the administration of Governor

nor Brown, sellers may repossess or sue for the balance—not both.

The Legislature declined to cover automobile sales when the bill, by San Francisco Democratic Assemblyman John I. Foran was passed. A bill to extend the deficiency judgment to automobile purchases is to be sponsored this year by the Association of California Consumers.

which it promised to freeze and store, eliminating the need to buy a freezer, went out of business. The families who signed installment contracts to pay for the beef then had to pay the balance due plus interest even though they lost the rest of the meat.

New Jersey now has eliminated from its laws the holder-in-due-course loophole at least for home improvements if not for all goods. Other states which have eliminated the doctrine in whole or part include Connecticut, Massachusetts, Utah and Vermont.

Krebs feels that finance companies and banks taking over installment contracts should be held responsible for the good faith and performance of sellers involved. He finds that lenders who take over debts tend to do little or no investigation into the reliability of the sellers because the lenders are protected.

Some states give buyers a few days to complain to the finance company about a defect or lack of promised performance by the seller; for example, five days in Illinois, ten in New York. But this is weak protection since defects do not always show up immediately. The Ohio AFLCIO is

asking the legislature to give buyers a good, fair 120 days to inform holders in due course of any valid complaint.

Unless and until your own state gives you some reasonable protection against this practice, be careful about signing installment notes for home improvements before the job is completed and you have inspected the job or other purchases. As importantly, make sure the firm is well-established in your locality.

- **Repossession laws** which also allow sellers to sue for a deficiency judgment are another widespread legal loophole which

can ruin you. For example, a working woman in New York bought \$800 worth of furniture. After she paid off \$350 she became ill and fell behind in payments. The store repossessed the furniture. It brought very little at the resale held by the seller. By the time the repossession, storage and legal costs were added to the balance of the debt, she was served with a judgment requiring her to pay the full \$800 even though she no longer had the furniture.

Only California and Utah, to my knowledge, give buyers some partial protection against this practice of repossessing and getting a deficiency judgment too.

The only fair law would be to give sellers and finance companies the right to repossess or sue for the balance, but not both. "Eliminating the deficiency clause if the goods are repossessed, especially for cars, would be an effective deterrent to sellers against pushing goods that people do not want or at a price they cannot afford," Arthur K. Young, Director of the Chicago Legal Aid Bureau, has said.

There has been much testimony that sellers and finance companies make little effort to get a fair price for repossessed merchandise to apply against the balance due. Professor Philip

Shuchman reported in the *Stanford Law Review*, that a study of nearly 150 repossessions in Connecticut found the cars would have covered the balances owed if the dealers sold them promptly at their retail market value.

Shuchman cites a car repossessed by the Chrysler Credit Corporation. The buyer had paid \$1,835 on a \$2,600 car. After repossessing, the finance company resold the car to the original dealer for \$400. But at that time the car had a *Redbook* wholesale value of about \$700 and a retail value of \$850-\$900. In fact, the dealer resold the car for \$950. But the debtor got credit for only \$400 against his unpaid balance.

In most states, sellers can hit you with a garnishee to collect any such unfair deficiency.

As we've warned before, if you ever suffer a repossession, send the finance company a registered letter warning them to make full effort to get a fair price for the goods on resale. Too, attend the sale yourself, preferably with a lawyer or at least a friend.

Even better, before you get to the repossession stage, if you can't pay see if you can resell the goods yourself to a private party for at least enough to cover what you owe.

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BankAmerica sees the light on tax fees

Governor Reagan's costly plan for state income tax payments via credit cards won't cost BankAmericard holders 4 per cent after all—after protests by two members of the Assembly.

The big bank had admitted BankAmericard would charge taxpayers 4 per cent for credit card tax payment. But it revised its charge downward to 1 per cent with a \$1 minimum for loans of \$100 or less.

Assemblywoman Yvonne Brathwaite, Los Angeles Democrat, had called the Reagan plan "the costliest subterfuge yet for a state withholding system."

She promised corrective legislation to prohibit charges of more than \$5 or 1 per cent on the one-time fee by credit card issuers. Four per cent would mean that a \$500 loan to pay in-

come tax would mean the taxpayer would pay back \$520.

Bank of America still will charge 1 1/2 per cent per month—18 per cent for a year—for loans not paid back during the first billing period.

Shortly before Bank of America cut back its income tax loan charge, Assemblyman Alan Sierota, also a Los Angeles Democrat, warned taxpayers not to use their BankAmericards for taxes because of "excessive interest and service charges."

The bank didn't mention the protests in its announcement but said that it had cut the fee because of great interest by BankAmericard holders.

"It is quite apparent," said a bank spokesman, "that, on the basis of sheer volume, we will be able to offer this service at a substantially lower cost than originally anticipated."

Cardholders will get a special check to use if they charge their income tax, the bank said.

Other credit card issuers were not immediately heard from but it was seen likely that they would match BankAmericard's competition.

Meanwhile, the federal Internal Revenue Service said it would accept a check or "other document" from a bank or credit card firm if it is cleared by the Federal Reserve District. Bank of America said its special tax drafts have clearance.

Withholding cut by new tax law

The Tax Reform Act, passed by Congress last year, while short of what labor asked, is showing generally lower amounts withheld from employees' paychecks, says the Internal Revenue Service. The complex new withholding formula made necessary by the law will cause a slight increase in withholding in a few situations, the IRS said, but added that if you pay too much you qualify for a refund.

Too easy-going

Congressman Clarence D. Long, a Maryland Democrat, says one of his constituents thinks oil companies are far too easygoing in reporting thefts of credit cards to police and service stations. The constituent had three cards stolen last July and by December, more than \$3,000 had been charged against them. Long also wants the Federal Trade Commission to investigate whether oil companies boost their prices to cover losses from credit card thefts.

Cyclist safety

A bill by San Francisco Democratic Assemblyman John Francis Foran would set up minimum safety standards for motorcycle helmets before they could legally be sold in California. Foran said that, without such standards, a cyclist "has no assurance the helmet will give him adequate protection."

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Getting Your Money's Worth

The truth about the Truth-in-Lending Act is that a number of lenders are misleading consumers about it, and the Federal Trade Commission has begun to fight back.

Soon after the law went into effect on July 1, Consumers Union began to get considerable feedback from the readers of *Consumer Reports*.

CU's observation, six months later:

There is some confusion about the law, but the evidence indicates a substantial amount of outright deception.

IN FACT, the situation has prompted the FTC to issue a statement condemning lenders who misinform the public. The FTC reports several kinds of lies in vogue:

- That the law imposes finance charges where none were previously imposed.
- That the law requires fi-

nance charges based on the previous month's balance (before any payments) rather than the balance after payments and credits have been deducted.

- That the law requires higher finance charges.

- That the law bars interest-free deferred payment plans, such as traditional 30-day accounts.

The FTC emphasized in its clarifying statement that the Truth-in-Lending Act does not set interest rates or finance charges. It only requires that borrowers be given full information, on the finance charge, expressed both in dollars and as an annual interest rate.

THE FTC asks anyone who learns of the new law being blamed for new or higher interest charges to report the incident to the Division of Consumer Credit, Federal Trade Commission, Washington, D.C. 20580.

- Avoid the advisor who "guarantees" refunds, wants a percentage of the refund, or supposedly knows all the angles.

- Be on your guard if it is suggested that your refund check be mailed to the practitioner's address.

Professional tax assistants must sign on the line provided on the return, says the IRS, reminding taxpayers that they are responsible for all information on the return, no matter who prepared it.

How to avoid tax accountant trouble

Most income tax advisors are honest and competent, says the Internal Revenue Service which gives this advice on how to avoid the unreliable minority:

- Beware of the "expert" who will not be around to answer your questions after the return has been prepared and filed.

- Never sign a blank return and leave it with a stranger.

- Do not sign a tax return prepared in pencil, since the return can be changed later.

Mussel poison

Mussels can be poisonous—fatally in some cases—during the period when "red tide" plankton abound and are eaten by the shellfish. Mussel quarantines imposed by the State Department of Health cover the summer months and sometimes later, depending on the number of the plankton. The last quarantine was lifted December 31 after several extensions but will be imposed as soon as the danger returns.

Safety measure

Commenting on the recent strangling death of a Bay Area child when an electrically-operated auto window closed on him, the East Bay chapter of the National Safety Council reported that power lines for such windows can be rerouted through the ignition switch. If this is done, the council advised, children cannot activate switches when the car ignition is turned off.

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How? By using Oakland International Airport! These are a few of the more than 2,000,000 air travelers annually who save on mileage, bridge tolls, and airport parking—savings that amount to a total of more than \$3,500,000 for the East Bay residents who use Oakland International. The airport has benefited Oakland in other ways, too—by attracting new hotel, restaurant, and industrial facilities to the booming new "Airport City" area on Hegenberger Road.

It took foresight to build the new Oakland International Airport in 1962—and it takes continued planning to keep up with air travel developments. The Oakland Board of Port Commissioners is already investigating recommendations for Oakland International in the 1980's. Planning ahead is part of the Port of Oakland's job, and with such planning, East Bay residents can be assured that in the future, more and more people will be able to Fly Oakland, while the continued growth of Oakland International Airport creates more jobs for Oakland people and benefits the economy of the entire city.

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Chips and Chatter

BY GUNNAR (BENNY) BENONYS

"Uncle Benny" claims that a wedding ring is a tourniquet worn on the left finger to stop circulation. Is that right, ladies?

"Cousin Al" claims the Bulls and Bears aren't nearly as responsible for the stock market losses as the Bum steers!

L'il GeeGee, our office vamp says, "If you don't think women are explosive, try dropping one!"

Our out of work list has climbed slowly upward, due largely to the long drawn out rainy weather and the muddy conditions. There seems to be a change coming. Maybe we will get some good weather for a welcome change.

Bid contracts are now being awarded to complete stations on the Rapid Transit system. Quite a few buildings are being planned for the immediate areas around the new stations. Considerable remodeling is being planned for several buildings adjacent to the stations.

Brother William T. Wash brought in a copy of our 1946 agreement. Very interesting. 40 hour week, wages were \$1.75 per hour for journeymen carpenters. Foreman's scale was \$2.00 per hour and there were no fringes of any kind. Some difference as to the present scale and fringes! Weekly unemployment was \$25.

Readers Reward winners for January are Brothers Paul R. Light and Frank J. Gonzalez. A suitable item will be mailed to each. Thank you for your participation and for reading the column, Brothers.

A \$3.5 million segment of the urban renewal project in San Francisco's Hunter's Point, has been awarded to CEME Development Co., a Negro-owned construction company based in Los Angeles. CEME was nearly a million dollars lower than the next bid. Present contracts involve retaining walls, grading, water and sewer systems. The Redevelopment Agency requires that at least 50 per cent of the work force must be hired from the Hunters Point area.

Future contracts will provide more than 600 moderate priced housing units, schools, shops, playgrounds, parks and other community projects.

Oakland Port commissioners are considering a recommended 30 million dollar expansion of facilities. It would include 35 additional passenger boarding gates and a second deck on the existing "finger." Portions of the overall costs will be shared by the airlines as operating fees. An actual vote, by the full board will be taken in the near future.

Heard recently from Brother C. F. Boam (retired). He was on his way to Portland, Oregon, to attend his son's wedding and then to several places in southern California, including the Rose Bowl game! Delighted to hear from you, Croam.

Brother Larry Moss (532-6489) has a Cerulean Mink stole to sell. Call him to see it. It's a good buy.

F. P. Lathrop Co. will be starting on the Greenwood Apartment Complex in Walnut Creek shortly. This will be a \$3.5 million multiple structure of wood frame, 2 and 3 story apartments.

Williams and Burrows will be starting on the second section of Acorn Housing project soon. It will involve a \$3,000,000 addition to the present project. Featured are apartments and town-house structures.

San Bruno will be the site of a \$25,000,000 apartment complex, involving 21 separate 3 story buildings. Future expansion is planned to a total of 1200 units. A large swimming pool and a golf driving range is included in the development.

Don't forget "Readers Reward." Look for your social security

number in this column. You may be a winner.

Your next union meeting is on Thursday, February 5. Come on down and join your President Robert Griebel (he and Eurnice just returned from a three week trip to Kansas and way points) and the rest of us while we conduct your business. See you at your next meeting, Brother?

Steel Machinists 1304

BY DAVE ARCA

Hi. Next week is Valentine time again. Give it some thought.

Expressing affection is sometimes difficult. When accomplished, it can mean a lot to your lady.

Over a lifetime of years, good times and bad times, are shared times. When we were grateful, we haven't always let her know. Valentine's Day is an opportunity. Don't miff it.

On the other hand: Ladies can let the old Boy know he's not all bad. Beneath his grouchy exterior, he's sometimes a softy.

Our members are like that. They gripe and complain, but in emergencies, enough members rally around. Too many are non-attenders. Yet enough seem to keep in touch. One day, we may again regain the rapport we once had. Maybe not this year, or next year. But one day, one year, members and officers, will be together again in a common cause. We can't predict the issue. We have so many. Okay? Okay.

Steamfitters 342

BY JIM MARTIN

The 1970 Statewide Apprenticeship Contest, open for 4th and 5th year Pipefitter and Plumber Apprentices, will again be held at Cal Poly College, San Luis Obispo, California, on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, June 10, 11 and 12, 1970. Headquarters for the Contest Committee will be the Motel Inn, San Luis Obispo.

Local contests to determine the Local Union's Contestant at San Luis Obispo, must be held prior to May 20, 1970.

The 5th year Pipefitter and Plumber State Winner will then participate in the United Association International Apprenticeship Contest, which is held annually at Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana, August 9-14, 1970, being this year's dates.

All expenses in connection with the International Contest, covering the wages, transportation and expenses of the Apprentice, are borne by the United Association.

The first, second and third place Pipefitter, Plumber and Sprinkler Fitter winners receive \$1,000, \$750 and \$500, respectively.

Arrangements have been made to hold an Officers meeting on Monday, February 16, 1970. This meeting will be held in Room 229 of the Labor Temple, and will be called to order by President Ernest Boyer at 7:30 p.m. sharp. All Officers are respectfully requested to arrange their affairs so that they may be present.

Our next regular membership meeting will be held on Thursday, February 5, 1970, at which time the following Officers will be installed by Past President Jim Wilson:

Ernie Boyer, President; Bennie Gosney, Vice-President; Bobby Beeson, Business Representative; James Martin, Board of Trustees; Hector Tays, Delegate to Contra Costa Building Trades Council; John Raimondo, Examining Board-Steamfitters.

A special message to Brother Doyal Walker — kindly arrange your heavy schedule so you also may be installed.

See you at our February 5th meeting.

Sheet Metal Workers 216

BY ROBERT M. COOPER

We received a nice letter from Harold Stewart who retired due to a heart attack in 1963 and is now living in St. James, Minnesota. He is doing as well as can be expected in that cold spot.

Ed Warren is back to work after a three week lay-up due to an on the job mishap. He stepped on a short piece of pipe. Glad you are on the job, Ed.

We are sorry to report that Ronnie O'Neill will be losing some time due to an operation. It is a good time to take care of things like this due to the shortage of work.

Some members are wondering what the benefits would be for your beneficiary in case of your death.

First, you receive \$2,500 as covered by the Sheet Metal Workers' Welfare Plan.

Second, you would receive \$100 for each five years of continuous good standing in the International Association. If you have 30 years and less than 35 such years, the amount is \$750. For continuous good standing of 35 years or over, the amount is \$1,000. These benefits were frozen by Convention action in 1966 so you cannot accrue any additional benefits after that date but any amount you earned before that is still in force.

If you became a member in 1946 and kept your membership up all this time, you would have 20 years service or \$400 in benefits.

Your beneficiary would also receive 3/4 of the pension premium paid for hours worked by you. If you have worked enough to have \$4,000 to your account, the benefit would amount to \$3,000.

If the event your demise was accidental, on or off the job, and your dues were paid in advance for the month of the occurrence, it would mean another \$2,500.

If you are a member of the Tri-State Council Death Benefit Plan whereby you contribute \$1 each time a member of that Plan dies, you would receive (at the present) \$1,300. You are eligible for membership anytime before your 49th birthday.

Add these up, and your beneficiary would receive \$9,700. Surprised? This means you could pay dues for eight years and still make a profit. However, the above are just a few of the benefits you receive as a union member. There are oodles more.

Regular union meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 8 p.m. in the Labor Temple, Oakland.

Members of the Tri-State Council Death Benefit Plan please note that Death Assessment No. 665 is now due and payable.

AFSCME 1695

BY MIKE FRIEDMAN

Working for the University of California has its disadvantages, but it also has its rewards. We must endure the anti-labor policies and practices of the UC administration and Board of Regents, which make it necessary for us to struggle militantly even for union recognition, and for gains won long ago by other sectors of the labor movement. On the other hand, our situation on campus has made it easier for us to see the connection between various social issues and political questions and our own job conditions.

Because of this, we have developed a well-deserved reputation as a militant union, willing to act on broad issues as well as "bread and butter" concerns.

In future columns, I hope to report on our activities around such apparently diverse issues as women's liberation, health

plan rates, tuition for Cal students, and of course racism and the war in Viet Nam.

We don't see these issues as "improper" for a trade union to deal with. In fact, the only way working people will ever achieve even their most modest goals is by fighting for them, militantly and in alliance with others who are fighting the same corporate interests for their rights. The labor movement once understood this better than it does now, but that makes it no less true now than it was then.

In these columns I hope to present the activities on the campus from the perspective of those of us, employees, students and faculty, who are directly involved. I welcome comments, criticism, rebuttals and suggestions. One of the prerequisites for a healthy labor movement is the ability of its rank and file to exchange differing views. There should be no social issue "out of bounds" to the working people who produce the goods, render the services and maintain the institutions of this society.

Last week, I attended a meeting of the Bay Area Labor Assembly for Peace, an organization of anti-war trade unionists. L.A.P. voted to endorse and work for a one day work stoppage against the war, to take place on April 15 (the day our war taxes are due!). They also are planning an anti-war labor conference for the last weekend in March. I'll have more details in subsequent columns.

Millmen's 550

BY ARSIE BIGBY

The following is quoted from a recent newspaper article which appeared in one of the South County papers:

"1970 is an election year, and it might be a good idea to write that 500 times on the blackboard, the better to understand the otherwise antic ways of certain men in public office."

I believe the above quote to be very good advice, for certain politicians (in office) who have continually played havoc with workers' agencies, and programs (ever since being elected) have now polished their good words into fair speeches, hoping the workers are simple enough to be deceived into voting for their reelection. These wolves in sheep's clothing are claiming to support just about everything you can think of, now that they have to stand for re-election.

There is absolutely no good reason however for anyone to be deceived by these good words and fair speeches, so long as there is an organization around like COPE (The Committee on Political Education) which tells it like it is. There is nothing of a political nature hidden which they do not reveal, regardless of the individual or his political party affiliation.

So make sure you are registered to vote, so that you can vote for those candidates who have and will protect your rights, and don't be deceived by those smooth talkers, who are continually robbing you of previously won gains, claiming to be your friend, but are proving not to be, by their actions.

Now a reminder, reference 1970 Vacation. If you have not yet notified your Employer in writing, as to what date you wish to take your vacation in 1970, PLEASE do so at once, so the Employer can post the vacation schedule on the bulletin board by April 1, as provided by the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

AFSCME 371 'Info'

BY NAT DICKERSON

While contemplating a few means to inspiring a greater par-

EBMUD Employees elect new slate

James Hendrix succeeded Manuel Pontes as president and Floyd Parton took over from Charles Texiera as secretary-treasurer of AFSCME-EBMUD Employees 444 in a union election which returned a brand new slate of officers.

Pontes declined to run for reelection after seven years in the post but was elected first vice president. Texiera, after long service, also declined to seek reelection.

New second vice president is Sam Adrien and Solomon Jones was named sergeant-at-arms. Frank Allen was elected chief steward and three new executive board members were named. They are Joe Cox, John Theodore and John Walsh.

All posts were contested except that of second vice president.

Participation of our members in union matters, the writer was awed at the number and variety of complaints and criticisms he hears against the "Union" from time to time.

Though sometimes valid, these attacks are always painful.

Yet, we wonder why more of the critics don't realize that an organization can be no grander, nor more effective than its total body.

We've mentioned before how so many members are always ready with self-appraised superlative ideas and suggestions but are seldom (or never) prepared to give of themselves, in the way of assuming further responsibility; another dimension is to be found in the realm of SELFISHNESS.

The type expressed above has not the depth nor profundity of the latter kind.

Pretending he is unaware of the differences between Public Employee and industrial unions, or say, the Teamsters and U.C. Employees Local 371, a member will blandly complain about something which, under the "Big" union concept, would be contained in a negotiated contract.

Legislative and other considerations aside, how many public employe union members, struggling with small numbers of workers (many of whom are not union members), working under budgetary restrictions, are willing to make the SUPREME PERSONAL SACRIFICES necessary for concrete and stable advances?

If an agenda item was felt by a majority of the membership to be of sufficient importance, HOW MANY WOULD BE WILLING TO GO OUT ON STRIKE?

We have been blessed to discern that selfishness and greed are not the sole properties of scabs and finks; though we abhor them the most!

We are proud to report that we had a long and informative conversation with ex-President Mack Scalzo; he is back home, but not in good shape. His daughter, in New Mexico, yet remains the same, regrettably.

Though we no longer retain affiliation with Council 49, we are happy to have recently received some very informative and enlightening correspondence from Forrest Payne, the new Director, in Sacramento.

It was especially edifying to the writer that his efforts have been fruitful in getting a bill introduced by Senator Mills relative to dues deductions in public employment.

Get pens busy writing to Senators Short and Rodda of the Committee on Industrial Relations; This would be an "act to add Sections 1151.5, 1158.4, and 1156-5 to the Government Code, relating to salary and wage payments to public employees."

Brothers, please give special attention to all scabs in our midst.

PUC ends Western Electric profit control

Governor Reagan's Public Utility Commission last week wiped out a 20 year old policy of regulating profits of Western Electric Company on equipment it supplies to Pacific Telephone Company, a sister subsidiary of American Telephone & Telegraph Company.

"It's an invitation to come and get it," Commissioner A. W. Gatov, only appointee of Democratic Governor Edmund G. Brown still on the five-man body,

Strike shuts down National Airlines

National Airlines cancelled all flights after 3,500 ground employees struck last Saturday in a contract dispute.

Spokesmen for the striking Air Line Employees Association said the union asked for a 15 per cent increase in a one year contract while the company insisted on a 40 month contract with a total raise of 18 per cent.

The walkout, including 141 employees at the San Francisco International Airport, was called after the National Mediation Board failed in efforts to close the gap between the parties.

The strikers are reservation clerks, ramp attendants and equipment operators. Most of National's normal 450 flights daily to 43 cities are in the East. They include nine each day to the San Francisco airport.

said in a sharp dissent.

The 3-2 commission decision overturned the opinion of the hearing officer and ran directly counter to recommendations of the commission's chief counsel, its staff, the U. S. government, the state attorney general's office, and city attorneys of San Francisco, Los Angeles and San Diego.

The ruling classifies Western Electric as a manufacturing company, which places it outside of commission jurisdiction.

Heretofore the commission has considered Western Electric as a utility, subject to the same controls on rate of return as Pacific Telephone on the grounds that both companies are arms of AT&T.

The change means that uncontrolled Western Electric profits will become part of the rate base on which Pacific Telephone's rate of return is calculated.

"It means a double markup and double profits," Gatov said.

All of Western Electric's profits and most of Pacific Telephone's go to AT&T.

"In four or five weeks Pacific Telephone will be in for another rate increase which will have folded into it the new higher prices of Western Electric," Gatov predicted.

"They will charge what the traffic will bear."

Gatov called it "an incestuous relationship" with "Mickey Mouse bookkeeping."

Gatov attached to his dissent

the opinion of hearing officer William Foley who had recommended dismissal of the case because no new evidence had been introduced to warrant a change of commission posture.

"They brought in a new string of Ph.Ds with a lot of economic gobbledy gook in this squirrel cage hearing," Gatov commented. "But its the same old mish-mash."

The view of the commission majority was:

"The risks of the manufacturer, Western, are different and significantly greater than the utility, Pacific; Western has risks of competition; Western's prices are the lowest available; Western's costs savings have been passed on to its customer, Pacific; and Western's financial characteristics are those of a manufacturer."

Gatov countered that Western Electric has no manufacturing risks, has no competition in supplying PT&T, has a captive market making telephone equipment for other AT&T subsidiaries such as Pacific Telephone, has none of the financial problems of independent manufacturers and no outsider knows what its costs are.

Nixon's 2d Dixie court choice laid to 'Southern strategy'

The Senate Judiciary Committee this week was to end hearings on President Nixon's second choice for the Supreme Court, Appellate Judge G. Harrold Carswell, a nomination which the AFLCIO called "a slap in the face to the nation's Negro citizens."

AFLCIO President George Meany charged Nixon "is still using Supreme Court nominations for partisan political advantage." Carswell is a Florida federal judge.

Meany said selection of Carswell reflects Attorney General John N. Mitchell's "Southern political strategy . . . rather than any search for a pre-eminent jurist."

He said the strategy is designed to woo Dixiecrats, who supported Segregationist Presidential candidate George Wallace in 1968, to the Republican party.

On the Senate floor Democratic Senator William Proxmire of Wisconsin said Carswell's credentials "are distinguished by mediocrity."

Carswell, a Democrat turned Republican, faced two disclosures indicating a slant toward segregation.

In 1955 after the United States Supreme Court ordered its desegregation, the Tallahassee, Fla., municipal golf course was turned over to a newly organized private country club of which Carswell was an incorporator.

Newspapers also disclosed that when Carswell ran for the Democratic nomination for the Georgia state legislature in 1948 he made a speech supporting segregation.

Carswell told the committee the views he expressed in 1948 "are abhorrent to me" now. He insisted he is not a racist.

Negro attorney Leroy D. Clark testified that Carswell was "the most hostile federal judge I have ever appeared before," frequently shouting at him in the courtroom and once turning his back on him during legal arguments.

Norman Knopf of the Justice Department and Ernst Rosenberger, New York lawyer, said Carswell was "extremely hostile"

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Mayor leads in scab paper boycott

Striking Typographical Union 21 pressed all-out campaigns this week for businessmen to stop advertising in the scab-operated San Rafael Independent-Journal and for residents to cancel subscriptions.

Mayor Earl F. Dunphy of Sausalito was among the first to cancel his subscription "until a contract has been signed."

Kickoff for the campaign was a mass demonstration of 1,000 unionists and their families at the Marin County news-

paper plant in late January.

The printers worked for 15 months without a contract as they tried to get the I-J to sign an agreement matching other contracts in the area.

Instead management violated clauses in the old contract, insisted the union give up established contractual protections and meanwhile trained non-union employees in the work of the unionized crafts.

The newspaper has been operated with scabs since the printers struck January 7.

from the EDITOR'S CHAIR

Continued from page 1
where I found a man with the answers.

It is true, said he, that diesel buses and trucks are not required to have smog devices since diesel smoke does not spread around the kind of hydrocarbons which gasoline engines do. Hydrocarbons are bad.

What, I asked, does the patrol do about that thick smoke which irritated my sinuses?

On that, he said, there is Sec-

tion 27153.5, subsection B, of the Motor Vehicle Code which refers to a chart showing five gradations of exhaust smoke from light grey to dark black. It's illegal to put out smoke as dark or darker than gradation 2. Under 3,000-foot elevation, that is.

This is enforced, said he, by 43 field personnel who make random inspections at the establishments where the vehicles are domiciled. Domiciled is what he said. And how many vehicles? said I. Oh, about a quarter million at a guess. Do Highway Patrolmen have the chart? Yes, and they write citations.

★ ★ ★

THE governor seems to have stopped sending me transcripts of his pronouncements as he used to do when this column was newer, so I am not able to swear that he made no mention of stricter control of diesel smoke. Farm burning yes. Industrial smoke, yes. Cars, yes. But no mention of diesel smoke in the press dispatches which are my only source. He does want to extend smog control to all elevations. This presumably means, that while chasing speeders in the Sierra, Highway Patrolmen also may flag down buses and trucks for too much smoke when they get a chance.

★ ★ ★

FRANKLY, I think the governor is wise if he is not indeed asking for stricter control over the diesel smoke which pollutes our air.

Because, when you figure how much it would cost the bus companies to keep that smoke out of my face on the freeway, the sum would be quite substantial and they would be tempted to stick us consumers with a fare raise.

And you know how much the governor wants to protect us consumers. He said so himself.

Why not pass this copy of the East Bay Labor Journal to a friend of yours when you are finished reading it!

Hospital regulation sought as answer to cost increases

Continued from page 1

of health facilities, the delegates said:

"We believe that hospital pricing structures bear so heavily on the public interest that they must be subject to public regulation."

"No other industry of such vital importance to our lives and well being is subject to so little scrutiny and public accountability."

The CCHPA spoke for unionists with a \$1,100,000,000 interest in health care. It is composed of 107 local unions and 33 labor and building trades councils and federations.

For three years the Council has been conferring with the California Medical Association, California Hospital Association, insurance carriers and founda-

tions seeking means to control costs, improve quality and make adequate medical care available to more people. Nothing happened, Mohn told the press conference.

Kaiser Health Plan has increased its costs by 7.5 per cent, effective April 1, without discussing it in advance with the unions, as CCHPA said Kaiser promised. None of its increases totaling 35.7 per cent over the three years was negotiated, but subscribers simply were confronted by rate rises.

"We see a growing trend among hospitals to plan their services and facilities to accommodate physicians instead of the public," the CCHPA legislative policy statement said.

"We believe the time has come to seek legislation to bring hospital operations into greater line with the public interest, both in terms of pricing policies and in general management. Nursing homes, convalescent hospitals and other facilities providing inpatient care are guilty of the same inflationary practices."

CCHPA proposed that all of these facilities be required to get advance approval from regional or state health councils for rate increases, expansion and change in facilities.

Watchmakers 101

BY GEORGE F. ALLEN

This week we can definitely report that Brother Ainsley Edmunds is out of the hospital and at home recuperating. We hope his recovery will be complete in a very short time.

Brother Frank De Filippo, watchmaker employed at Grant Bros. Grant Avenue, San Francisco store, is off the job; due to an emergency visit to the hospital being necessitated. However, at the present time, he does not anticipate that hospitalization will be necessary. We hope to report in the next column that he is back on the job and completely recovered. Brother DeFilippo has been a Trustee of the union for a number of years.

In contrast to the month of December being the busiest month for our members, the months of January and February are the busiest months in our office, due to the additional book work and records requested by the government within a stipulated period. Therefore, we say again as we said last year—we feel like taking that slow boat to China.

Meet set on short school work week

The Oakland board of education will meet as a committee of the whole at 6 p.m., February 24, with Alameda County Building Trades Council representatives to discuss school building craftsmen's request to end their short work week. The building tradesmen last year accepted an hours cut as a temporary answer to school budget problems, but unions have warned that continued short hours penalize workers and create greater future taxpayer expense in deferred maintenance.

Workmen's comp staff cut fought

Continued from page 1

full referee staff be appointed and urged all affiliates to do the same.

The California Labor Federation and Teamster spokesmen also went to bat against the cuts. Central Labor Council delegates and others at Monday's General Electric strike rally were urged to do the same.

Lee, in urging the protests, wrote affiliates:

"Since the enemies of labor and all workingmen and women have not the nerve to attempt to wipe out the workmen's compensation law, they are going to gut it by making it almost impossible for an injured working man or woman to collect."

First to reply to BTC letters was Democratic Assemblywoman March K. Fong who pledged support for a full referee staff. Also involved in the cuts are court reporters and secretaries, making up three-member hearing teams with referees, or a total of 24 jobs under the "modified" Reagan plan.

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OFFICIAL UNION NOTICES

CARPENTERS 36

The regular meetings for Carpenters Local Union 36 are held the first and third Thursdays of each month at 8460 Enterprise Way, Oakland, California 94621, at 8 p.m. Phone 569-3465.

The hours of the Financial Secretary's office are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Friday the office closes at 1 p.m.

Stewards meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of each month, at the hall.

Support yourself, attend your union meetings!

Fraternally,
ALLEN L. LINDER,
Rec. Sec.

HAYWARD CARPENTERS 1622

Regular meetings are held the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at 8 p.m. with a social following the meeting on the fourth Thursday.

The office of the financial secretary is open 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Wednesday; 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursdays, and 7:30 a.m. to noon Fridays.

Stewards meetings are at 7:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month. A stewards training program is held in conjunction with the stewards meeting.

The 1969 Claim for Refund forms can be picked up at the Financial Secretary's office.

Final filing date is June 30, 1970.

Fraternally,
KYLE W. MOON,
Rec. Sec.

ALAMEDA CARPENTERS 194

Carpenters Local 194 meets the first and third Monday evenings of the month at 8 p.m. in the Veterans Memorial Building, located at 2201 Central Avenue, Alameda.

Refreshments are served following the first meeting of the month in the Canteen for all present. You are urged to attend your Local's meetings.

Fraternally,
WM. "BILL" LEWIS,
Rec. Sec.

IRON WORKERS 378

Our Regular Executive Board meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month, 8 p.m.

Stewards meetings also are held the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 8 p.m.

Our regular membership meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month, 8 p.m.

Fraternally,
BOB McDONALD,
Bus. Agt.

SERVICE EMPLOYEES 18

All future membership meetings of Service Employees' Local 18 will be held at the following time and place:

TIME: 3:00 p.m., the fourth Friday of each month.

PLACE: Jenny Lind Hall, 2267 Telegraph Avenue, Oakland, Calif.

This is in accordance with action taken at the general membership meeting of June 27, 1969.

Fraternally,
VICTOR C. BRANDT,
Sec.-Bus. Rep.

PRINTING SPECIALTIES 678

Meeting second Thursday of the month at 8 p.m. in Cannery Workers Hall, 492 C Street, Hayward, California.

Fraternally,
JOSEPH CABRAL,
Sec.

AUTO & SHIP PAINTERS 1176

Auto, Marine & Specialty Painters 1176 meets on the first and third Tuesdays of every month in Room H, Labor Temple, 2315 Valdez Street, Oakland, at 8 p.m.

Fraternally,
LESLIE K. MOORE,
Bus. Rep.

BERKELEY CARPENTERS 1158

Regular meetings are held the first and third Thursdays of each month at Finnish Brotherhood Hall, 1970 Chestnut St., Berkeley.

Be a good member. Attend union meetings. You may win a door prize.

Fraternally,
NICK J. AFDAMO,
Rec. Sec.

PRINTING SPECIALTIES 382

Meeting second Friday of the month at 8 p.m. in Jenny Lind Hall, 2267 Telegraph Avenue, Oakland.

Fraternally,
TED E. AHL,
Sec.

GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES 3

General membership meeting Hall C, Labor Temple, 2315 Valdez St., Oakland, the fourth Friday of the month, 8 p.m.

Fraternally,
WRAY JACOBS,
Rec. Sec.

SHEET METAL WORKERS 216

The regular meetings are every 3rd Wednesday of the month at 8 p.m. in the Labor Temple.

Fraternally,
ROBERT M. COOPER,
Bus. Rep.

STEEL MACHINISTS 1304

Regular meeting Thursday, February 5, at 8 p.m. Executive Board meets 6:30 p.m.

Fraternally,
DAVE ARCA,
Rec. Sec.

AFSCME U.C. 371

Next regular meeting will be held February 14, 1970 in Room 155, Kroeber Hall at 2 p.m. Executive Board will meet at 1 p.m. preceding regular meeting. Also a special meeting of all stewards will be held on Saturday, February 14. Please attend. Very important.

Fraternally,
J. J. SANTORO,
Sec.-Treas.

UNITED STEELWORKERS 1798

Regular Membership Meeting Friday, February 27, 1970, 8 p.m., Eagles Hall, 1228 36th Avenue, Oakland, California.

Fraternally,
WILLIAM F. STUMPF,
Administrator

MILLMEN'S UNION 550

Due to the State Council of Carpenters Convention during the third week of February, 1970 the regular meeting of Millmen's Union 550 has been changed as follows: Our February meeting will be held on the fourth Friday, February 27, 1970, at 8 p.m. in Room 228-229, of the Labor Temple, 2315 Valdez Street, Oakland, California. Please pass this information along to other members of this Local Union.

Effective immediately there will be no Dues collected during any meeting of this Union. The Financial Secretary will be in our office on meeting nights between the hours of 6:45 p.m. and 8 p.m. to collect dues.

Members that move are reminded that the Labor Journal will not change your address from any notice sent by any individual to them. The only way they will change your address is by notice from this office. So if you change your address please notify this office so that we can change your address at the Labor Journal.

Fraternally,
GEO. H. JOHNSON,
Fin. Sec.

BARBERS 134

The regular February meeting will be held on Thursday night, February 26, 1970 in Room H of the Labor Temple, 23rd and Valdez Streets, Oakland.

The following officers were installed for 1970: Ray Luciano, president; Don Forfang, vice president; Jack Reed, secretary-treasurer; Al Chamorro, recorder; Steve Troxil, guide; Mel Ferreira, guardian; Hugh Dean and Mel Ferreira, finance committee.

Third reading and vote (no debate or amendments) on petition to grant Oakland International Airport Barber Shop separate contract for Air Terminals Only. Allowing six day (Monday through Saturday) service. No barber to work more than 39 hours in a five day week.

Dues and assessments are due on or before the first day of the month for which they are due. A \$1 assessment is levied on a second bill.

Legislative assessment of \$3 is now due.

Fraternally,
JACK M. REED,
Sec.-Treas.

SCHOOL EMPLOYEES 257

The next regular meeting of the Oakland, California Unified School Employees Union, Local 257 will be Saturday, February 14, 1970 in the Auditorium at Castlemont High School, 8601 MacArthur Boulevard, Oakland, California at 10:30 a.m.

Special Order of Business will be discussion and vote on the need to raise the dues upon the recommendation to the last membership meeting on January 10, 1970 by the Executive Board.

Executive Board will meet in the Community Room at 8 a.m. Members of Board Please Note.

There will be a Special Meeting with the Cafeteria Workers in the Auditorium at 1:30 p.m. Cust. Shop Stewards please take note and urge your Cafeteria Workers to attend this organizing meeting.

Fraternally,
HAROLD BENNER,
Exec. Sec.

SERVICE EMPLOYEES 322

There will be a special membership meeting at 8 p.m., Thursday, February 5, in Hall H of the Labor Temple, 2315 Valdez Street, Oakland, for the purpose of voting on bylaw changes and increasing dues.

Fraternally,
VERN DUARTE,
Bus. Agt. & Fin. Sec.

PAINT MAKERS 1101

The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 17, at 8 p.m. in Hall "C" at the Labor Temple, 2315 Valdez Street, Oakland, Calif.

Fraternally,
CARL LAWLER,
Rec. Sec.

Injunction halts rail tieup; compulsory arbitration threat

In rapid succession last week-end, four shopcraft unions struck the Union Pacific Railroad, the nation's railways ordered a lock-out of unions and a federal judge enjoined both actions.

Then on Monday both sides were back at the bargaining table.

The whirlwind week-end that brought a threat of compulsory arbitration was one of a series of crises in 14 months of negotiations between 75 major railroads and four unions representing 48,000 shopcraft workers — Machinists, Electrical Workers, Boilermakers and Sheet Metal Workers.

Negotiations broke down Thursday of last week. The unions struck the Union Pacific Friday night. The railroads ordered a lockout on all other lines

for 10 p.m. Saturday. The unions, and then the railways, asked for injunctions and U.S. District Judge John J. Sirica ordered normal rail operation continued until February 10.

William W. Winpisinger, chief union negotiator, charged the companies ordered the lockout "in hopes Congress will force this dispute into compulsory arbitration."

John P. Hiltz, chief management negotiator, conceded that if asked by the Nixon administration the railroads would suggest a permanent law providing for compulsory arbitration of all railroad disputes.

There was week-end talk of possible congressional action, recalling a nationwide rail strike in 1967 halted by a special act of Congress imposing a compulsory wage settlement.

Judge splits merged dailies; Senate votes monopoly bill

Within days after an Arizona federal judge again ordered the publisher of Tucson's two dailies to end monopoly operation, the Senate last week voted to exempt such consolidations from anti-trust laws.

At issue in the so-called "Failing Newspaper Act" and the judge's Tucson anti-trust finding are joint operations by 44 newspapers in 22 cities, including the Hearst Examiner and the Chronicle in San Francisco.

California Democratic U. S. Senator Alan Cranston marred his up-to-now good legislative record by voting along with his GOP colleague, George Murphy, for the bill. The Senate vote, sending the measure to the House, was 63-14.

AFSCME-EBMUD 144

The next executive board meeting of EBMUD Employees 144, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, will be held February 5, 7:30 p.m. All stewards, and interested members, are urged to attend.

The membership meeting will be on February 19, 7:30 p.m. instead of February 12 due to the 12th being a holiday.

Fraternally,
FLOYD E. PARTEN,
Sec.-Treas.

AUTOMOTIVE MACHINISTS 1546

Regular meetings of Lodge 1546 are held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at the hour of 8 p.m. in our building at 10260 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland.

Fraternally,
LEVIN CHARLES,
Rec. Sec.

TYPOGRAPHICAL 36

ELECTION NOTICE

A referendum election will be held Wednesday, March 4, 1970, to fill the unexpired term of 2nd Vice-President.

The vacancy occurred when Joe Drummond resigned because of ill health.

Pat Femister of the Tribune and Byron Edgett of the Daily Review were nominated at the January meeting of the Union.

Fraternally,
ROSS KYLER,
Pres.

CARPET & LINOLEUM 1290

National conference deaths are due and payable through NC 348 and \$3.50 is due for Brother Joseph Santos who passed away December 10, 1969.

Effective February 1, 1970 wages are increased twenty cents (20¢) per hour for Journeymen—Apprentices raised according to their percentage scale.

Fraternally,
ROBERT SEIDEL,
Rec. Sec.

Delegates to the Alameda County Central Labor Council were urged to write Congress, asking defeat of the bill. Rufus Day of Oakland Typographical Union 36 told the Labor Council that the measure was intended to nullify a United States Supreme Court decision upholding a previous lower court decision ordering Tucson management to restore the two papers to separate ownership.

U.S. District Judge James Walsh, who made the first order, spelled it out last week by directing William S. Small Jr., publisher of the Tucson Daily Citizen to sell the Arizona Daily Star within 21 months and change joint operations within 90 days.

The 90-day phase calls for setting up separate advertising, circulation and promotion departments for each newspaper but permits continuing joint departments for daily-Sunday advertising and for distribution.

The Senate bill allows joint operations when newspapers are "in probable danger" of failing, instead of the over-all anti-trust rule that businesses must be on the edge of bankruptcy before being allowed to pool operations.

Senators defeated two amendments to restrict the bill to publishers with no interest in other papers or broadcast businesses and to tighten up the definition of a failing newspaper.

The measure, which Democratic Senator Philip A. Hart of Michigan called "an anti-poverty program" for wealthy publishers, was approved by the Senate Judiciary Committee at the last session.

The bill would permit profit pooling, fixing advertising and circulation rates and division of the market.

The Nixon administration took firm stands both for and against the bill. The Justice Department's anti-trust division testified strongly against the bill and a Commerce Department spokesman testified for it.

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County AFL-CIO.

43rd Year, Number 47

February 6, 1970

JOHN M. ESHLEMAN, Editor

LEONARD MILLIMAN, Assistant to the Editor

1622 East 12th Street, Oakland, Calif. 94606

Phone 261-3981

He's still 'Tricky Dick' in that veto victory

President Nixon has demonstrated anew that when he was called "Tricky Dick" for some of his previous actions, he amply earned the title.

He took occasion during his grandstand veto of the Health, Education & Welfare appropriation on nationwide television to attack the bill's aid to "impacted" school districts for his sharpest criticism.

Then the administration let wavering Congressmen know that the President was willing to "split the difference," accepting \$400,000,000 instead of the \$600,000,000 to which he had objected—a difference of \$200,000,000 in an over-all \$19,700,000,000 appropriation.

So, for such a relatively small sum he was willing to cut back more vitally needed funds for the nation's health, for such items as financial aid to poor students, for remedying educational lacks of disadvantaged children, for hospitals, mental health, library services and others.

"Impacted education" funds supply money to local school districts with a high percentage of children of federal government employees. Any Congressman running for re-election would be happy to know that this politically popular item would not be badly hurt if he were willing to go along with the veto.

The same goes for his veto-supporting hint that he would accept more of the bill's grants-in-aid to states and cities which he had vetoed as "inflationary" if Congress would only allow him to decide how much to spend.

He got his way. Now let's see how well the final HEW appropriation meets the need and how it compares with other items in the federal spending which Nixon finds "inflationary."

Why aid newspaper monopoly?

Passage of the so-called "Failing Newspaper Act" by the Senate, to give wealthy newspaper publishers monopoly privileges denied other businessmen, illustrates again that employers never give up their battle for the legislative results which please them.

And it indicates again—if this point weren't already fully established—that working people must be just as persistent in letting their state and local governments know what they need. And in backing up their requests with their votes for COPE's candidates.

The United States Supreme Court has held that pooled newspaper operations violate the anti-trust laws and a federal judge in Arizona has ordered the Tucson papers, over which the test case was fought, to end their monopoly.

The Senate would allow such mergers if newspapers could show "probable danger" of failure, rather than actually demonstrating that they were about to go under. This is to apply, whether or not publishers involved in consolidation are members of prosperous chains or have profitable broadcast operations.

The Senate measure to permit super-profitable price-fixing and profit-pooling now is up to the House. We hope Congressmen hear from enough working people to convince them the voters oppose newspaper monopoly.

Otherwise we will see not only growing chain newspaper domination but moves by other employers to gain the anti-trust immunity which the bill grants newspapers.

Bargaining is the solution

The reaction of railway management to the long-delayed strike against Union Pacific—to which the carriers responded by announcing a lockout—is to plump for compulsory arbitration in the railroad industry.

The answer, of course, lies in the opposite direction. It is to free the railroad workers from the delays piled on delays, the fact-finding, injunctions and other obstructions to free collective bargaining which have prolonged this particular dispute to 14 months with no end in sight. Rail wages lag because of this special treatment in the Railway Labor Act.

Arbitration agreed to by both sides after a test of economic strength is one thing, but wherever arbitration is compulsory management is inspired to further delays with further losses to working people. Compulsory arbitration cripples collective bargaining, which has quicker and better results.

This Generation's Gap



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Consumer investment

Editor, Labor Journal:

Just saw your editorial on the Association of California Consumers in the January 23 issue. If there were more like this in the other papers, we'd be sure of success in increasing membership to fight the Pacific Gas & Electric Company's new request for a rate raise on electric rates. Thanks for your marvelous help.

SYLVIA SIEGEL
Executive Director,
Association of California
Consumers

(And thank you, Mrs. Siegel. The Association of California Consumers is urging more individuals, unions and other organizations to join so that membership fees may underwrite an expensive fight against PG&E's request for \$67,400,000 more a year in electric rates. To join, contact the Association of California Consumers, 3030 Bridgeway, Sausalito, 332-3667. As we said in the editorial, it costs you little, saves you much.)

Job program questioned

Editor, Labor Journal:

It was with mixed emotions that I read about the BACOP (Bay Area Construction Opportunity Program) placing 10 disadvantaged apprentices in the sheet metal trade.

I am a member of Sheet Metal Local 216, Oakland, Calif. My membership number 291640. During the past 14 months I have had just light work in my trade. The last contact I had with Local 216, I was told we had 200 men out of work and when the rains started it would get worse.

If we have 200 Journeymen out of work what are we going to do with 10 more young men.

Are they going to be nothing more than cheap labor for the next four or five years.

Or is this just a farce forced by the politicians to gain a few more votes.

With 200 Journeymen out of work and working at reduced wages in other trades, I feel the

dues paying members of this local are entitled to an explanation.

ART BLANSITT
Stockton

(Local 216 reports that in the last nine years the union's out-of-work list has never been as high as 200 and that it was 105 the week this letter was received. The answer is not to stop skills training, which is necessary to meet future needs of the trade, but to seek a reversal of the Nixon administration economic slowdown and "tight money," which have particularly hurt the building trades, a union spokesman says.—Editor.)

Due process of law

Editor, Labor Journal:

There is no warrant for the conclusions of the carpenter who deplored your statement that "if they take away the rights of the Panthers, it won't be long before they take away our rights."

From that he deduced "that you condone armed rebellion

against law and order." Defending any person's right to due process of law in no way advocates armed rebellion. The reverse is true.

Law and order means the guarantee of due process or it means nothing. The denial of due process by officials sworn to uphold the law is itself rebellion against law and order. If the officials are armed it is armed rebellion.

If officials are allowed to destroy the rights of the most miserable, the precedent is set for them to destroy anyone they choose. That was the lesson of Hitler Germany.

It is truth our forefathers learned through bitter experience. To prevent such happenings they created the Constitution.

The Constitution is the cornerstone of America. How can persons be so ignorant as to call themselves pro-American and advocate the vitiation of the Constitution?

CHARLES WALSH,
Watchmakers 101

5 million seek raises in 1970

Substantial increases in wages and fringes are expected to be sought in union contract negotiations for 5,000,000 workers in 1970 on the heels of average 7.1 per cent wage increases negotiated for 2,500,000 workers in 1969.

Another 5,200,000 will receive 5.2 per cent wage hikes this year under existing union contracts, the Labor Department reported.

The department said last year's increases, "up considerably" from previous years, came to a median of 8.2 per cent when fringe benefits were added.

The Bureau of National Affairs said 1969 wage increases were at an all-time high of 22.1 cents an hour, or 3.6 cents greater than 1968. Deferred in-

creases scheduled for this year average 17.1 cents, BNA said, the highest in 133 years.

A rough year of negotiations in 1970 was forecast by almost everyone, with workers caught by inflation and the economy being squeezed by the Nixon administration financial policies.

Union economists have estimated their members will demand wage hikes of around 9 and 10 per cent, including 3.2 per cent for increased productivity and 6.4 per cent to keep up with price inflation.

Biggest groups involved in 1970 negotiations are 500,000 railroad workers, already in a crisis state, 450,000 truck drivers with contracts expiring in March and 660,000 auto workers whose agreements expire in September.



IT TOOK unparalleled labor unity behind the strike and boycott of General Electric to produce the settlement on which GE strikers were voting this week. Boycott picketing across the country was exemplified in this Alameda County line at a retail outlet.

Political action guards wage gains, East Bay labor is told

Continued from page 1

ated United Electrical Workers, representing the bulk of the strikers, recommended approval.

"By mobilizing the trade union movement as it was mobilized by the AFLCIO," Henning told the rally at the Labor Temple, "the labor movement can defeat any power of capital."

"By alliance with liberals, we can spread the message of the labor movement."

"It is a great joy to whip an employer which feels it can determine the way working people are to live their lives."

"General Electric no longer may claim that power."

He praised college students for aiding in picketing and contrasted employer use of students as scabs in prior strikes. "Those days are gone," he commented.

Then he switched to comparing this nation's government attitude with New Zealand's policy of full employment and health, education and social services—the country inaugurated public works employment there in face of a "disturbing" 5/10 of 1 per cent jobless rate in 1967.

"Why cannot the richest nation in the world have comparable policies, comparable social services?" he asked.

The answer, he told the meeting is political action to guard economic gains and produce full employment and guarantee that Americans will be protected from ill health and poverty and be "well-housed, well-sheltered, well educated and protected against air-water pollution."

Rather than such policies, President Nixon has vetoed the Health, Education & Welfare appropriation, which "would give some reasonable health and education protection," he said.

The President's nomination of Judge Harrold Carswell to the Supreme Court is "a shocking appointment, out of his Southern strategy motivated by a desire for the Southern electoral votes in 1972," he charged.

"I urge thousands of protests against this appointment," he said. "If GE no longer has unilateral control over economic power, Nixon no longer should have unilateral power over the Supreme Court."

Cal. Senate gets bill curbing picketing, political action

A Republican state Senator from Southern California has introduced a bill in the 1970 state legislature to shackle labor in picketing and political action.

It is Senate Bill 193, described by the California Labor Federation as "probably one of the most vicious anti-labor, anti-picketing bills to be introduced in recent years."

Golden Gate Fields to open as pact ends racing strike

Continued from page 1

second year and \$2 the third. The package covers both wages and fringes, with individual unions to decide how they want to split it.

Local 280, key union in the bargaining, voted 436 to 260 to accept the agreement, with a heavy favorable vote in the south overriding a rejection in the north.

Local 9 followed its usual tradition of signing for a single year at \$3. Spokesmen said the local union would undoubtedly follow the pattern of other years.

Locals 280 and 399 had been on strike at Bay Meadows and Santa Anita. Local 9 had struck Bay Meadows and Service Employees 193 had been on strike against Santa Anita.

The author is Republican Senator William Coombs of Rialto who introduced the stringently anti-labor SB 1192 in the 1969 session. That bill, legislating the contents of union bargaining agreement, was defeated after a stiff fight.

The 1970 session, where anti-pollution has become the most popular issue, this week reached the point where the earliest measures introduced may be considered by committees and moved for action.

A handful of bills had been advanced to this process earlier by waiver of the constitutional 30-day waiting period.

Coombs' SB 193 has been referred to the Senate Industrial Relations committee.

It would amend the state Labor Code "relating to an employer's right to terminate employment of employee who takes time off in order to participate in a political demonstration."

The measure is vague as to what constitutes a "political demonstration." While the bill gives management wide latitude in controlling employee "political activity" it imposes no such restrictions on management.

Labor Federation political analysts said the bill "could be an effective skeleton upon which to hang other antilabor provisions later."

The federation promised a close watch on the bill's legislative progress.

N. Cal. Carpenters get 20 million in union vacations

More than 37,000 Northern California Carpenters this week were to receive an over \$20,000,000 vacation pay benefits earned under their union collective bargaining contracts.

The checks were mailed last Saturday by the Five Bay Area Counties Carpenters Vacation & Holiday Trust Fund and the 41 Northern California Counties Carpenters Vacation Trust Fund. They represent 50 cents per hour for each straight time and overtime hour worked between August 1, 1968 and July 31, 1969 plus 4 per cent annual interest.

Carpenters who have not received their checks by Thursday of this week are assumed to be listed under wrong addresses and should phone their local unions or write their fund office to give correct addresses, the funds said.

Since the union-negotiated vacation programs began in 1957, more than \$125,000,000 in vacation pay has been distributed to Northern California Carpenters.

Telegraph Workers seek to block wire delivery by mail

The United Telegraph Workers has filed two court actions to block the Post Office from handling Western Union business in an experiment which a financial publication predicted could lead to closing 1,800 WU offices.

The union asked the U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington, D.C. to review an order of the Federal Communications Commission authorizing a two-year experiment of the Western Union-Post Office "mailgram" service.

Oakland was among 13 cities, where mailgram tests have been made, which were expected to be sites of the experiment. Western Union, however, listed only 12 cities, none in California.

In seeking opposition by legislators to a Western Union intrastate rate increase request before the state Public Utilities Commission, the union had cited Western Union's mailing of telegrams in Los Angeles, under a separate procedure from mailgram.

Then, the union said, the company told the PUC the Los Angeles mail operation had ended and it was not mailing telegrams anywhere in California.

Unionists feared that if Western Union gets its rate increase it would then initiate mailgram here.

UTW also asked the U.S. District Court in Washington to enjoin both the company and post office from instituting any such service in which certain telegrams would be transmitted directly to a Post Office, where postal employees would mail them.

"The intended effect of Mailgram," the union said, "is and will continue to be to jeopardize, impair and destroy the job security, morale and working conditions and benefits of telegraph company employees represented by the union."

The magazine Financial World went farther. It said the Mailgram service combined with centralized telephone centers which Western Union is establishing will result in WU closing some 1,800 public message offices.

Eventually, the magazine predicted, the company will handle public messages primarily by direct electronic delivery to the home.

Why not pass this copy of the East Bay Labor Journal to a friend of yours when you are finished reading it!

Nixon deal offer wins support of health, education veto

(Editorial page 7)

President Nixon last week vetoed the \$19,700,000,000 appropriation for health and education and made his veto stick as Republicans gave in to White House "carrot and club" maneuvering.

After he vetoed the Health, Education & Welfare appropriation on nationwide television, he singled out its \$600,000,000 for aid to "federally impacted" school districts for his strongest criticism. "Impacted district" aid is to reimburse school districts for revenue loss resulting from large numbers of federal employees within their boundaries.

He then let Congress know through an HEW spokesman that he would accept \$400,000,000 for that item. And he indicated he would accept more money for grants-in-aid to cities and states if Congress would let him decide how much of it to spend.

Republicans, many of whom had voted for the money bill, went along with him to uphold the veto in the House. The total vote was 226 to override against 191 for the veto, but that was far short of necessary two-thirds to defeat the veto.

But Republicans voted 156 for the veto to 27 against. Only 35 Democrats supported the veto and 199 voted to override.

The veto involved funds for health research, hospital construction, educational aid to the disadvantaged, mental health, student financial aid and other needed programs.

Noting that Nixon policies on high cost of credit, backtracking on school segregation and his Supreme Court choices had already victimized blacks and working people, unable to buy homes, the AFLCIO pointed out that:

"The Nixon administration now has added teachers, school superintendents, librarians, health researchers, children and parents to the list of those adversely affected by Nixon policies."

The President called the bill "inflationary" because it appropriated \$1,100,000,000 more than he had asked for.

Despite cuts in other areas, it would have made available \$1,100,000,000 more for education and health than he wanted.

This week Nixon unveiled his new \$2,800,000,000 budget—the highest ever—with higher taxes and higher postal rates intended to build up a "modest" \$1,300,000,000 surplus. And he said he would activate the estimated \$50,000,000,000 anti-ballistic missile system although its initial research installations have not been built.

The veto was over united opposition of labor and such diverse health groups as medical, dental, hospital and public health associations. The California Labor Federation and the Alameda County Central Labor Council joined with the AFLCIO in opposing the veto.

Wholesale rise to spur new inflation despite Nixon policy

The Nixon administration's economic slowdown policy against inflation simply was not working in January as wholesale prices rose sharply in an ominous foretoken of higher consumer prices.

The Labor Department's wholesale price index made its largest rise in eight months, up seven-tenths of 1 per cent over December.

Prices consumers pay reflect wholesale price changes. The wholesale index measures prices of processed foods, industrial raw materials and farm feed, the latter in turn affecting farm prices. The biggest rise was in processed foods and feed.

Last year's consumer price rise was 6.1 per cent, the worst inflation in 20 years.

Living costs went up six-tenths of 1 per cent in December to put the Bureau of Labor Statistics consumer price index at 131.3 of its average in 1957-59. That meant that as the old year went out, householders paid \$13.13 for goods which would have cost \$10 in 1959.

Bay Area prices nipped consumers even more than the national average. They rose 6.2 per cent in 1969 to 134.5 per cent of the 1957-59 base period average, meaning that consumers paid \$13.45 for goods which would have cost \$10 some 10 years earlier.

Wholesale prices of processed food and farm feed went up 2 per cent, the largest item-by-item rise in the over-all increase. Farm product prices jumped four-tenths of 1 per cent. Industrial raw materials were three-tenths of 1 per cent higher at wholesale.

Wholesale prices for processed food and farm products tend to influence retail prices more quickly, but industrial raw materials prices tend to have a more lasting effect on consumer prices, economists noted.

Despite the continuing rising tide of consumer and wholesale prices, President Nixon's labor

Anti-inflation? steel prices rise

As the Nixon administration's economic slowdown, aimed at halting inflation, went into its second year, steel-makers increased prices, heralding new consumer cost boosts.

U. S. Steel, the nation's largest, raised the prices of hot rolled, cold rolled and coated steel sheets \$4 to \$6 a ton effective last Sunday. The products are used in auto, appliance, and machinery and other manufacturing with direct relationship to retail consumption.

secretary, George P. Shultz, had a rosy prediction that the now yearlong Nixon economic slowdown soon would cut prices. Just how soon, however, he said was the "\$64" question.

Cemetery Workers change name to Service Union 322

Service Employees 322 has changed its name from the former Cemetery Workers 322, elected a business agent and installed new officers.

The name change was made to reflect the existing membership and set the stage for expansion of organizing in its jurisdiction, Vern Duarte, financial secretary and business agent, said.

Elected with Duarte and installed in January were Ray Newman, president; John Rowe, vice president; Glenn Fowler, recording secretary; Henry Maravella, sergeant at arms, and Dan Rivera and Pete Limbardo, trustees.